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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows. All of the pending claims are reproduced below for the Examiner's convenience.

- 1. (Currently amended) A balancing vertical load device for a <u>linear</u> motor, to be used in combination with a vertical driving device with controlled force and positioning, comprising:
- a motor assembly, comprising a linear motor assembly having a permanent magnet stator core, and a moving coil surrounding said stator core and being slideable in a linear motion thereto;
- a digital linear array indicating the linear position of said moving coil; and a load weight which, driven by said motor, performs a vertical movement; and
- a sealed air pressure system, comprising an air cylinder, a piston gliding inside said air cylinder with low friction and being connected with said load weight, an air container, with storing an air volume such that with a piston velocity of 2 m/s, a pressure differential ereated by movement of said piston during operation of said device is less that 3 percent, and an air pressure source;
- wherein whereby said sealed air system balances a load of said load weight, so that precise control of force and position of a vertically moving object, as if moving horizontally, is achieved.
- 2. (Currently amended) A balancing vertical load device for a <u>linear motor according to claim</u>
 1, wherein said <u>linear motor assembly has a feeding digital linear array feed back system for vertical position and force control.</u>
- 3. (Currently amended) A balancing vertical load device for a <u>linear</u> motor according to claim 1, wherein a valve is inserted between <u>said an</u> air pressure source and said air container for adjusting air pressure in said air container to modify balancing force.
- 4. (Currently amended) A balancing vertical load device for a <u>linear</u> motor according to claim 1, wherein said <u>linear</u> motor assembly and said sealed air pressure system are mounted on a frame, with space within said frame being used for said air container.